

PATENT SPECIFICATION



881,700

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COMPLETE SPECIFICATION DRAWINGS ATTACHED

Means for Dispensing Packets or Wrapped Goods of Uniform Shape

We, WILMOT - BREEDEN LIMITED, of Amington Road, Acocks Green, in the City of Birmingham 25, a British Company, do hereby declare the invention for which we pray that a Patent may be granted to us, and the method by which it is to be performed to be particularly described in and by the following statement:

The object of this invention is to provide convenient means for dispensing packets or wrapped goods of uniform shape.

Means according to the invention comprises a body part in which are formed a plurality of parallel channels, a detachable or hinged lid extending over the channels to leave one end of each channel exposed, a ramp at said one end of each channel, and a resiliently loaded pusher in each channel, the arrangement being such that when a series of the appropriate packets or wrapped goods are placed within a channel between the ramp and the pusher, the latter will urge the packets or goods towards the ramp which will cause the leading packet or goods to project above the lid in a position in which it can be readily grasped.

In the accompanying drawings Figure 1 is a sectional side view, and Figure 2 is a sectional end view of an example of the invention.

In the illustrated example, which shows the invention as applied to means for dispensing packets of cigarettes, there is provided a body part 10 which forms the top of a shop counter. The body part is preferably moulded in a plastic, and defines a plurality of parallel channels 11 extending from front to rear of the counter. Each channel has a cross-section appropriate to the packet of cigarettes for which it is intended, and in order to enable a standard size of channel to be adapted to different sizes of packet, each channel incorporates a pair of spaced slides 12 of appropriate distance from its

base.

The front wall 10^a of the body part is conveniently inclined so as to be readily viewed by an individual standing in front of the counter, and bears decorative advertising matter or other indicia in register with each channel appropriate to the brand of cigarette to be dispensed from that channel.

At the rear of the body part is a housing 10^b in which are accommodated a plurality of self coiling spiral springs 13. Each spring 13 is aligned with one of the channels respectively and has its outer end secured to a pusher 14 slidable within the channel, so that the pusher will be urged towards the housing. The pusher 14 may be in the form of a moulded plastic plate having a foot shaped to slide within a guideway 15 on the base of the channel.

Adjacent the housing 10^b the slides 12 are bent upwardly to form a pair of inclined ramps 12^a. Moreover, extending over the channels except for a position above the ramps 12^a is a detachable or hinged lid 16 which forms the upper surface of the counter, and is preferably formed from a transparent material.

In use each channel 11 is loaded with a plurality of packets 17 of the particular cigarette for which it is intended, the packets being disposed between the pushers 14 and the ramps 12^a. As a result the pushers urge the packets 17 towards the ramps, and the arrangement is such that the action of the ramps on the leading packet in each channel causes the leading packet to project above the lid 16 in a position in which it can readily be grasped by an attendant.

Although the invention has been described as applied to means for dispensing packets of cigarettes it will be understood that it could be applied in essentially the same manner to means for dispensing other packets, or wrapped goods of uniform shape.

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such, for example, as slabs or bars of chocolate.

WHAT WE CLAIM IS:—

1. Means for dispensing packets or wrapped goods of uniform shape comprising a body part in which are formed a plurality of parallel channels, a detachable or hinged lid extending over the channels to leave one end of each channel exposed, a ramp at said 5 one end of each channel, and a resiliently loaded pusher in each channel, the arrangement being such that when a series of the appropriate packets or wrapped goods are placed within a channel between the ramp 10 and the pusher, the latter will urge the packets or goods towards the ramp which

will cause the leading packet or goods to project above the lid in a position in which it can be readily grasped.

2. Means as claimed in claim 1 in which 20 each pusher is connected to the outer end of an associated self coiling spiral spring accommodated in a housing at said one end of the channel.

3. Means for dispensing packets or 25 wrapped goods of uniform shape constructed, arranged, and adapted to operate substantially as described with reference to the accompanying drawings.

MARKS & CLERK.

PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION

Means for Dispensing Packets or Wrapped Goods of Uniform Shape

30 We, WILMOT - BREEDEN LIMITED, of Amington Road, Acocks Green, in the City of Birmingham 25, a British Company do hereby declare this invention to be described in the following statement:—

35 The object of this invention is to provide convenient means for dispensing packets or wrapped goods of uniform shape.

Means according to the invention comprises a body part in which are formed a 40 plurality of parallel channels, a detachable or hinged lid extending over the channels to leave one end of each channel exposed, a ramp at said one end of each channel, and a resiliently loaded pusher in each channel, 45 the arrangement being such that when a series of the appropriate packets or wrapped goods are placed within a channel between the ramp and the pusher, the latter will urge the packets or goods towards the ramp which 50 will cause the leading packet or goods to project above the lid in a position in which it can be readily grasped.

In an example of the invention as applied to means for dispensing packets of cigarettes, there is provided a body part which forms the top of a shop counter. The body part is preferably moulded in a plastic, and defines a plurality of parallel channels extending from front to rear of the counter. 55 Each channel has a cross-section appropriate to the packet of the cigarettes for which it is intended, and in order to enable a standard size of channel to be adapted to different size of packet, each channel incorporates a 60 pair of spaced slides of appropriate depth on its base.

The front wall of the body part is conveniently inclined so as to be readily viewed by an individual standing in front of the 65 counter, and bears decorative advertising matter or other indicia in register with each channel appropriate to the brand of ciga-

rette to be dispensed from that channel.

At the rear of the body part is a housing in which are accommodated a plurality of 75 self coiling spiral springs. Each such spring is aligned with one of the channels and has its outer end secured to a pusher slidably within the channel, so that the pusher will be urged towards the housing. 80

The pusher may be in the form of a moulded plastic plate having two integral tongues bent to engage on the slides, and an intermediate tongue to which the spring is connected, this tongue being bent in the opposite direction and extending into the space 85 between the pair of slides.

Adjacent the housing, each channel incorporates a pair of inclined ramps mounted respectively on the two slides. Moreover, 90 extending over the channels except for a position above the ramps is a detachable or hinged lid which forms the upper surface of the counter, and is preferably formed from a transparent material. 95

In use each channel is loaded with a plurality of packets of the particular cigarette for which it is intended, the packets being disposed between the pushers and the ramps. As a result the pushers urge the 100 packets towards the ramps, and the arrangement is such that the action of the ramps on the leading packet in each channel causes the leading packet to project above the lid in a position in which it can readily be 105 grasped by an attendant.

Although the invention has been described as applied to means for dispensing packets of cigarettes, it will be understood that it could be applied in essentially the same 110 manner to means for dispensing other packets, or wrapped goods of uniform shape, such, for example, as slabs or bars of chocolate.

MARKS & CLERK.

881,700 COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

1 SHEET

*This drawing is a reproduction of
the Original on a reduced scale.*

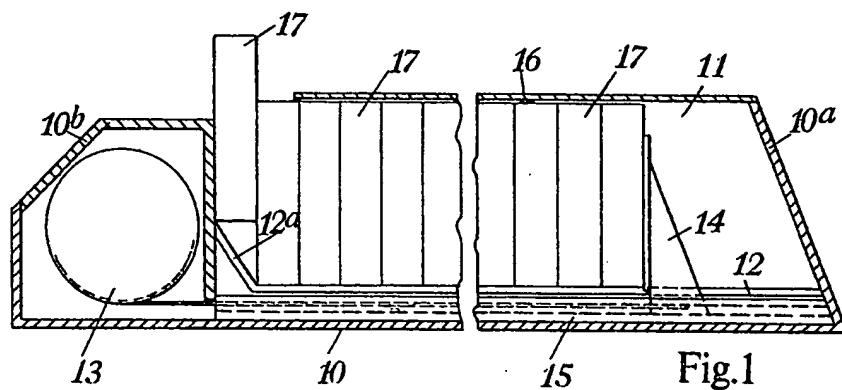


Fig.1

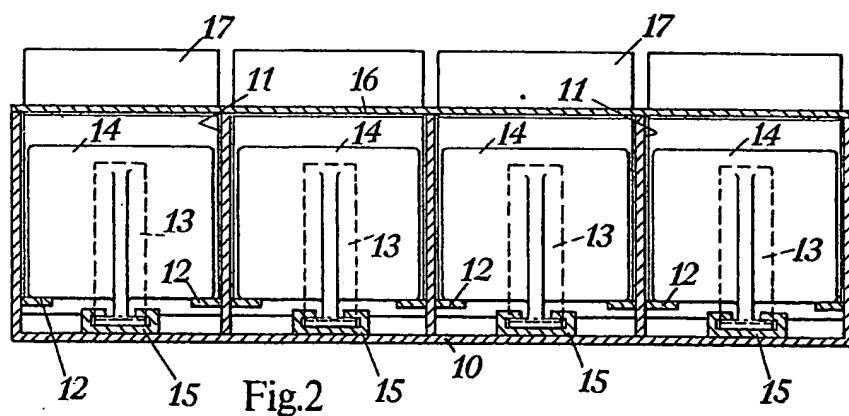


Fig.2